REMARKS

In the Official Action, the Examiner allowed independent claim 15, and rejected independent claim 1 and claims 2-6 which depended therefrom. The Examiner objected to claim 7 (which depended from claim 1) and claims 8-11 and 13 (which depended from claim 7) and indicated that such claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

By the present Amendment, the subject matter of claim 7 has been incorporated into claim 1, claim 7 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and the preambles of claims 2-6 have been amended to reflect the amendment of claim 1. Claims 8-11 and 13 have also been amended to depend from claim 1.

Since all matters raised in the Official Action are believed to have been fully met by the instant Amendment, reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any aspect of the present application, he is invited to contact to the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

By:

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: February 12, 2010

Robert G. Mukai

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